(c) The State Government has released the amount of Rs. 195.66 crore and the nine DCCBs have kept them as deposits in Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Bank Ltd. as Statutory Liquidity Ratio.

Scheme for repertory theatre group

*549. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for supporting the repertory theatre groups in the country;

(b) if so, the number of repertory theatre groups are supported under this scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that a few leading theatre groups have not been receiving grant for the last two years; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Department of Culture is supporting repertory theatre groups under the Schemes of (i) Financial Assistance to Professional Groups and Individuals for Specified Performing Art Projects; and (ii) Building Grant to Cultural Organizations.

(b) A total of 239 repertory theatre groups were supported under these schemes in the year 2005-06.

(c) and (d) All theatre groups selected for receiving grants are being given financial assistance regularly and there has been no change in this position in the two years.

Shortfall in collection of education cess

*550. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the revenue receipts from the two per cent education cess in the first eight months of current fiscal at Rs. 2,400 crore have been only a third of the budgeted yearly estimates of Rs. 6,975 crore;